

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Attorney Docket No.: 49931-0080

Applicant(s) Edward W. MERRILL *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 6478

App. No.: 10/696,709

Group Art Unit: 1796

Filing Date: October 30, 2003

Examiner: S. Berman

Title: RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR  
WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97. A copy of each of the listed documents are being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.99.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

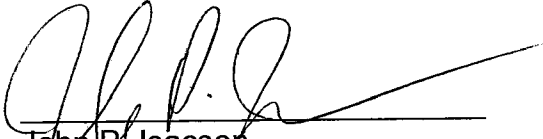
Applicants believe that the instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing of a first Office action on the merits but before the mailing date of either (1) a final action under §1.113; (2) a notice of allowance under §1.311; or (3) an

action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required fee in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-3840.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Respectfully submitted,

February 21, 2008  
Date

  
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